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the existence and knowledge of things seem to me excellent throughout. The theory that consciousness is distinct from mind, which latter is an "energy-system," is very original and ingenious, and deserves a much fuller and more technical discussion than I can give it here. The same is true of the contents of the chapters on space and time. Incidentally, I noted some striking observations on immortality, individual and social. Altogether Professor Boodin has written a book of exceptional interest and value, accurate and ample in scholarship, rich and varied in range, original in its total vision of the world. It is much to be hoped that the distractions of the war will not rob it of the audience whose attention it will generously reward.

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THE LIFE AND LETTERS OF EDWARD EVERETT HALE. EDWARD E. HALE, JR.
2 vols. Little, Brown, & Co. 1917. Vol. I, pp. 390; Vol. II, pp. 442.
\$5.00.

This biography should have appeared at least a half-dozen years ago in order to meet the public's interest at its flood tide. Dr. Hale died in 1909, and this volume bears the date 1917. In those eight intervening years many of his associates have died, and the world has moved on, forgetfully, so that the book will not receive so wide a reading as it deserves.

The two volumes are interesting chiefly because the subject himself was an interesting personality. His life extended through a period of eighty-seven years, and the records which he left — letters, diaries, books, and magazine articles — furnished abundant material of a most readable sort for the hand of his son and biographer.

Readable as the book is, however, specially to those who knew Dr. Hale in person, it could have been made much more attractive and expository if its author had not almost wholly eliminated incidents and anecdotes. He has held, quite conventionally, to the epistolary method. But he might have interspersed, among the letters, some of the scores of interesting and illuminating anecdotes which his father's friends could have contributed, and the book would thereby have been greatly enriched. Such material does accomplish much toward the revealing of a man's character. Indeed, this was Dr. Hale's own belief. On page 57 of Volume II he is quoted as saying that a good way to write a biography would be for a hundred friends to write one incident, each, of the man. This method the son did not approve; and the result is that the book

leaves in shadow a considerable segment of Dr. Hale's circle of life. Perhaps the author-son held, all too consistently, to the purpose which he sets forth in his preface. "To try to criticise and estimate him has seemed no proper part of my work," he declares. That is an unfortunate and unfruitful position for a biographer to take. The result of it is that the book seriously lacks warmth and color. There is never a line of enthusiasm for the eminent and brilliant father. All the adjectives and adverbs of description from cover to cover are in the positive degree, never a superlative. Perhaps a great man is great neither to his valet nor his son. Whatever the explanation of the neutral tints which characterize the book, the disappointing fact is that this biography falls short of the adequate exposition of a great American's mind and heart, much as the uncouth bronze effigy in the Public Garden in Boston falls short of expressing his physical appearance.

The many-sidedness of Dr. Hale's nature was one of his most marked characteristics. This fact was brought out at a Browning meeting in Boston several years ago when the presiding officer introduced him with these words: "There are several Dr. Hales in this country. There is Dr. Hale the preacher and pastor, Dr. Hale the reformer, Dr. Hale the man of letters, Dr. Hale the philanthropist, Dr. Hale the historian, and others. Today I have the honor of introducing to you Dr. Hale the Browning scholar." This many-sidedness was sometimes adduced against Dr. Hale as evidence of his superficiality. But such criticism was itself superficial. Dr. Hale's genius lay in his wonderful capacity for entering into many diverse kinds of human activity, and in several of these he took rank among the best. Everybody knows that he wrote that splendid story, *The Man Without a Country*; but not so many know, in these days of war-and-peace debates, that he saw, years ago, that some form of arbitration or judicial procedure was the natural substitute for warfare. More than this, he saw and wrote and preached that war was the thing to be attacked rather than peace advocated. For war is a definite concrete evil; whereas peace is merely the absence of that evil, with the whole world engaged in its undisturbed occupations. A subtle distinction, but grasped by Dr. Hale many years ago. When the titles of Dr. Hale's numerous books are looked over, one sees that here was a man of wide range of interest, striking originality, and tireless activity. He was far removed from the specialist type, yet his knowledge of many subjects carried him much beyond the average man of the university graduate type. It was said of him sometimes that "he scattered too much." But

that was his genius. His mind was keen and originaive, and to whatever subject he applied it, it took him at once far out beyond mediocrity. In no subject did he stand absolutely at the top, but in a large number he became really eminent.

He possessed a keen dramatic sense in some directions, but lacked it in others. For example, his delivery of his sermons was individual and effective and excellent from the viewpoint of technique. He knew what he was doing and did it well. But in his stories, on the contrary, he seems to have had little technique. His fertile mind sprouted all kinds of ideas, and his one aim seemed to be to express himself with directness and simplicity, though without much regard for the reader's attitude. He once set forth, in his paper on *How to Do It*, some rules for writing. They were, "Know what you want to say, and say it; use your own daily language; leave out fine passages; choose the short word rather than the long, and the fewer words the better." These sententious instructions are quite too meagre and general to be of much practical value to the beginner. In the main he followed these rules in his own writing, but had he not been endowed richly with invention and literary skill, the world would never have given him the attention which it did give.

Similar to these rules for writing were his rules for talking. "Tell the truth; do not talk about your own affairs; confess ignorance; talk to the person who is talking to you; never underrate your interlocutor; and be short." Again it may be said that Dr. Hale followed his own rules here laid down. But the rare charm which his conversation had — and often it was monologue — was by no means due to these rules, but to his human sympathy, his unerring sense of values in construction, and his grace of intonation. His speaking, both public and private, showed a far deeper knowledge of the art of vocal expression than his few meagre rules gave hint of. Moreover, he developed a unique personal style. And that is the legitimate aim of every artist, whatever his form of art. Those persons who were fortunate enough to hear him read that incomparable sequence of drollery, his story, *My Double and How he Undid Me*, may have been deceived into thinking that it was all as simple and easy as it sounded. But it was really comedy of a high order.

The writer, and probably many other admirers of Dr. Hale, was struck often by the contrast between his sadness of countenance and his unfailing fountain of humor. He looked like a veritable "man of sorrows," but he roused happy smiles and laughter wherever

he went. The same contrast was exemplified in the case of Abraham Lincoln. In truth both those great men felt deeply the burden of the world's woe, and the counteracting saving force in their lives was their keen sense of humor. Yet in both of them the humor was not a thing apart from life but was an expression of some deep insight into human problems, and often was suggestive of their solution.

In these days, when definitions of the word "citizenship" are being made and unmade, it is good to touch anew the life of this eminent and loyal citizen. He was radical in many ways, but politically he often showed himself unexpectedly conservative. Always, however, in reforms or statesmanship or in his own chosen profession, he was constructive, stimulating, and inclined to the spirit rather than the letter. In brief, it may be said of him by one who knew and admired him, and it will be re-affirmed by thousands of similar persons, that he accepted his great gift of leadership as a real stewardship, and gave himself, in season and out of season, in public and in private, to the service of his fellow-men. In the words of Tennyson, when speaking of that other knightly soul, King Arthur, "He had power on this dark world to lighten it, and power on this dead world to make it live."

BRADLEY GILMAN.

PALO ALTO, CAL.

THE HEART OF THE PURITAN. Selections from Letters and Journals. ELIZABETH D. HANSCOM. The Macmillan Co. 1917. Pp. xiv, 281. \$1.50.

Lord Rosebery said, "The Puritan was a practical mystic, the most formidable and terrible of all combinations"; and Macaulay rounded out the portrait: "The Puritan prostrated himself in the dust before his Maker, but he set his foot upon the neck of his king. The intensity of his feelings on one subject made him tranquil on every other. Death had lost its terrors and pleasure its charms."

While this is true of the great moments of the Puritan's life, there were with him, as with all of us, many moments of less importance, in which this Samson would be like any other man. Professor Hanscom believes the heart can be distinctly felt throbbing in him; and she has brought together here, from a century and a half of New England history, selections from letters and journals which cast a flood of light upon the ordinary life of our Puritan forefathers — their dress, the furniture of their homes, their educational methods, trade, courtship, travel, amusements — for they had them — private